STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER JESSICA ROSENWORCEL

Re: Review of Foreign Ownership Policies for Common Carrier and Aeronautical Radio Licensees under Section 310(b)(4) of the Communications Act of 1934, as Amended, IB Docket No. 11-33, Second Report and Order (April 18, 2013)

For American telecommunications companies to maintain their leadership in a global market, they need investment on a global scale. More funding means more digital age infrastructure and more innovative services. It means more economic growth. It means more jobs.

So for the Commission, the equation going forward is deceptively simple: our communications networks need an unprecedented level of investment, and investment requires clarity and predictability. In short, the Commission should strive to provide confidence for investment.

Establishing clear-cut, understandable rules is one way to instill this confidence. That is what we do here—and that is why I support today's decision. We provide clear direction to licensees, making it easier to invest in our networks and access capital from around the globe. We remove unnecessary filing requirements, and as a result more resources can be devoted to improving networks rather than pushing paper. At the same time, our approach is entirely consistent with national security objectives. We keep intact review of matters of essential national interest and maintain our authority to condition or disallow foreign investment that threatens those interests.

Finally, transparency, efficiency, and confidence in investment should not be limited to telecommunications networks. Broadcasters also are facing an increasingly complex, multiplatform future. That is why I am pleased that the Media Bureau sought comment on a letter from the Coalition for Broadcast Investment seeking additional clarification of the Commission's foreign ownership policies. We should quickly review the record and take action accordingly.

Thank you to the International Bureau for the experience and knowledge you bring to these issues and this proceeding.